

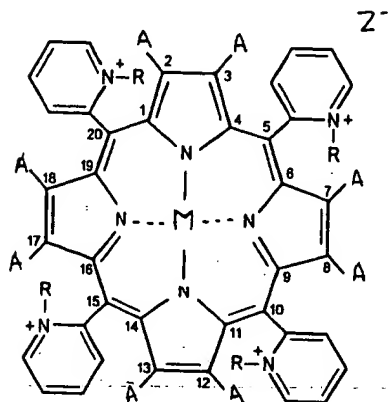
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Serial No.: 09/880,125
April 13, 2004

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

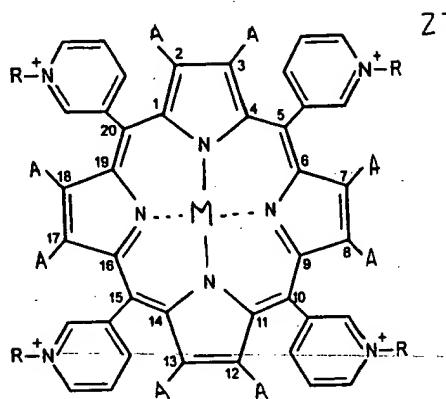
This listing of claims will replace all prior
versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-27 (Cancelled).

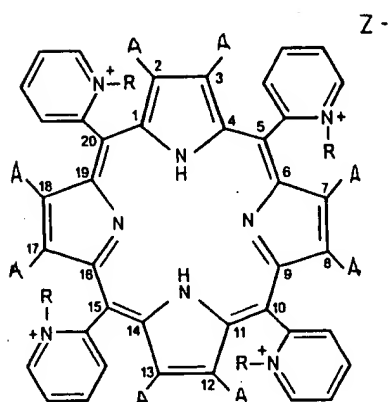
28. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula



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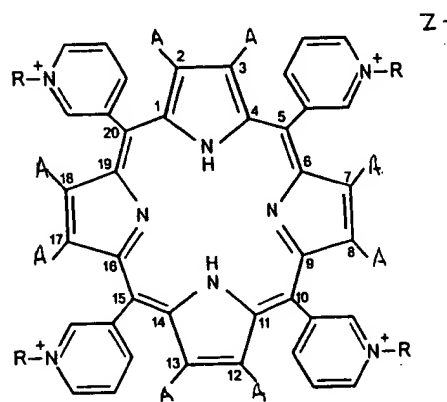


II



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or



IV,

wherein

each R is, independently, ethyl or isopropyl,

each A is, independently, hydrogen or a halogen,

M is a metal selected from the group consisting of
 manganese, iron, copper, cobalt, and nickel ~~and~~ zinc, and

Z⁻ is a counterion.

29. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 28 wherein each R is ethyl.

30. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 28 wherein at least one A is a halogen.

31. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 28 wherein said compound is of Formula I or II and M is manganese.

32. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 28 wherein said compound is of Formula I or III.

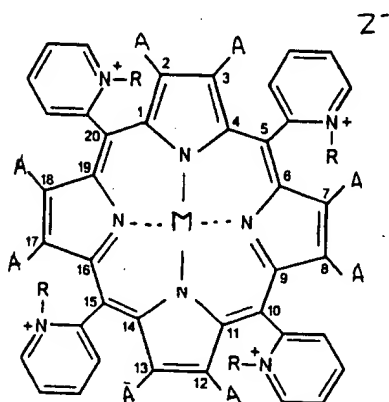
33. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 32 wherein said compound is of Formula I and M is manganese.

34. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 28 wherein said compound is a mixture of atropoisomers $\alpha\alpha\alpha\alpha$, $\alpha\alpha\alpha\beta$, $\alpha\alpha\beta\beta$ and $\alpha\beta\alpha\beta$.

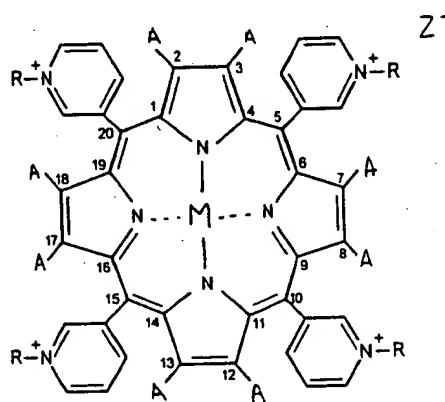
35. (Previously Presented) The compound according to

claim 28 wherein said compound is a mixture of $\alpha\alpha\beta$ and $\alpha\alpha\alpha\alpha$ atropoisomers.

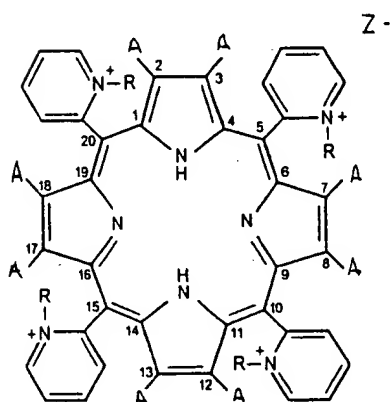
36. (Currently Amended) A method of protecting cells from oxidant- induced toxicity comprising contacting said cells with a protective amount of a compound of formula



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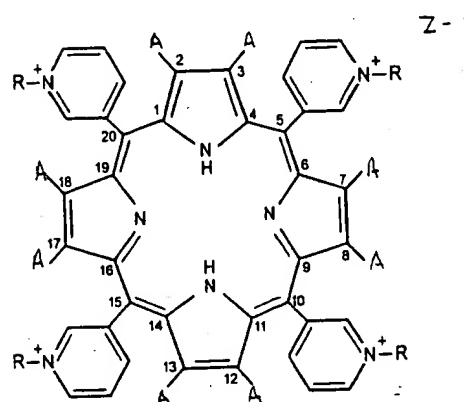


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each R is, independently, a C₁-C₈ alkyl group,

each A is, independently, hydrogen or a halogen,

M is a metal selected from the group consisting of
manganese, iron, copper, cobalt, and nickel ~~and~~ zinc, and

Z⁻ is a counterion.

37. (Previously Presented) The method according to
claim 36 wherein said cells are mammalian cells.

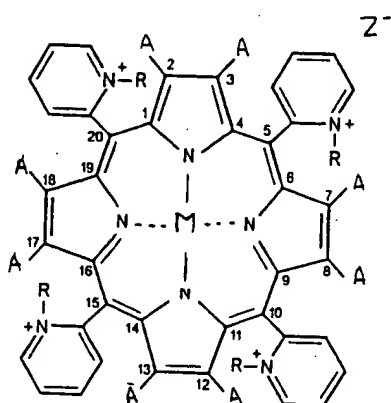
38. (Previously Presented) The method according to
claim 36 wherein said compound is of Formula I or II and M
is manganese.

39. (Previously Presented) The method according to
claim 36 wherein said compound is of Formula I or III.

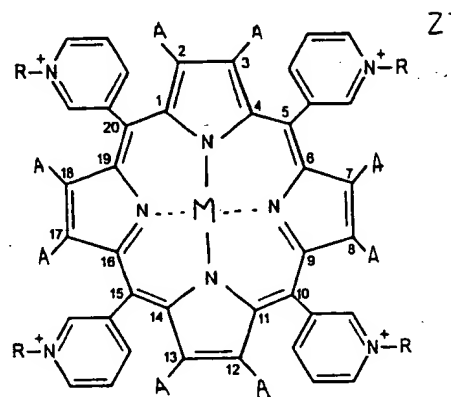
40. (Previously Presented) The method according to
claim 39 wherein said compound is of Formula I and M is
manganese.

41. (Previously Presented) The method according to
claim 36 wherein each R is independently ethyl or
isopropyl.

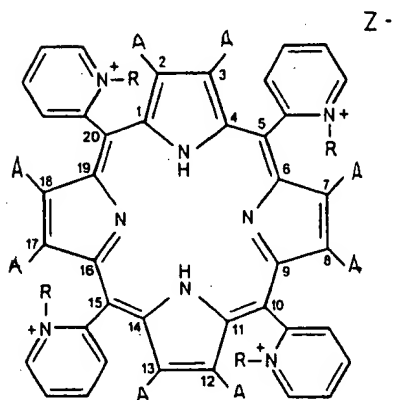
42. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a pathological condition of a patient resulting from oxidant-induced toxicity comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound of formula



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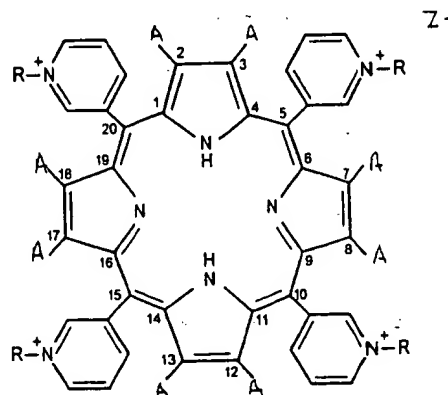


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each A is, independently, hydrogen or a halogen,
M is a metal selected from the group consisting of
manganese, iron, copper, cobalt, and nickel ~~and~~ zinc, and
Z⁻ is a counterion.

43. (Previously Presented) The method according to
claim 42 wherein said compound is of Formula I or II and M
is manganese.

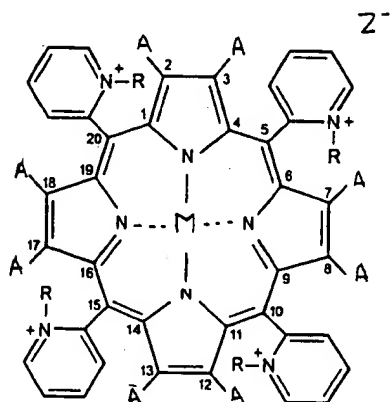
44. (Previously Presented) The method according to
claim 42 wherein said compound is of Formula I or III.

45. (Previously Presented). The method according to
claim 44 wherein said compound is of Formula I and M is
manganese.

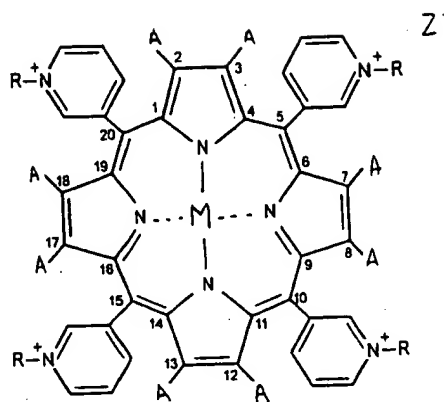
46. (Previously Presented) The method according to
claim 42 wherein each R is independently ethyl or
isopropyl.

47. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a
pathological condition of a patient resulting from
degradation of NO[•], comprising administering to said patient

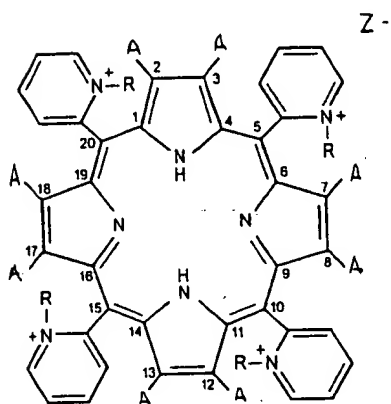
an effective amount of a compound of formula



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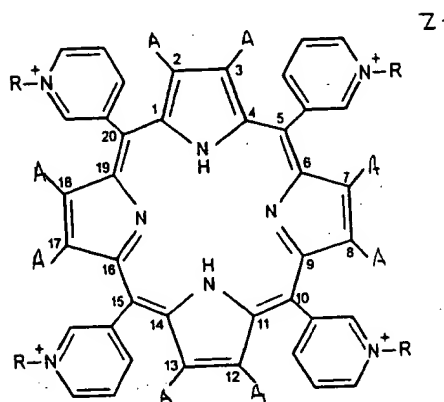


II



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each R is, independently, a C₁-C₈ alkyl group, and

each A is, independently, hydrogen or a halogen,

M is a metal selected from the group consisting of

manganese, iron, copper, cobalt, and nickel ~~and zinc~~, and

Z⁻ is a counterion.

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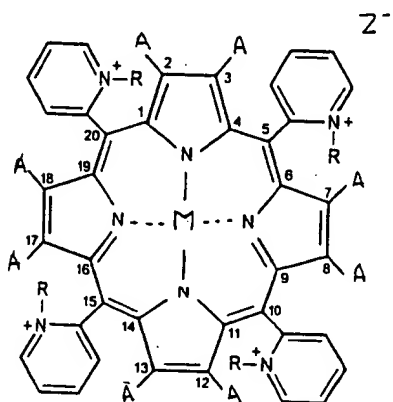
48. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 47 wherein said compound is of Formula I or II and M is manganese.

49. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 47 wherein said compound is of Formula I or III.

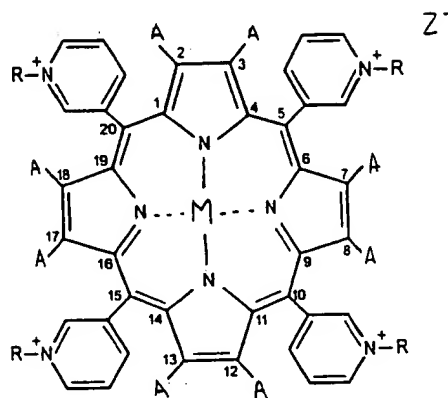
50. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 49 wherein said compound is of Formula I and M is manganese.

51. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 47 wherein each R is independently ethyl or isopropyl.

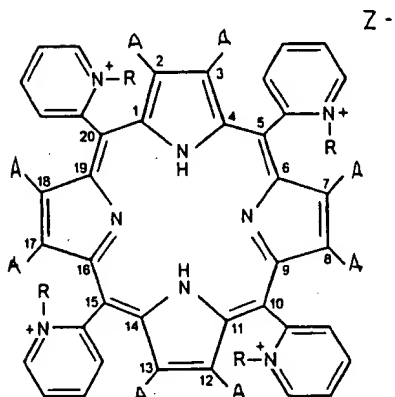
52. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a patient for inflammatory lung disease comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a compound of formula



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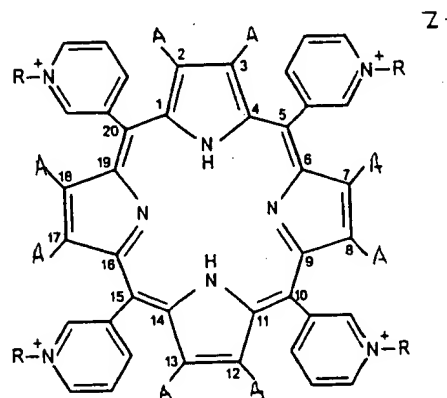


II



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or



IV,

wherein

each R is, independently, a C_1 - C_8 alkyl group, and

each A is, independently, hydrogen or a halogen,

M is a metal selected from the group consisting of manganese, iron, copper, cobalt, and nickel ~~and zinc~~, and Z^- is a counterion.

53. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52 wherein said compound is of Formula I or II and M is manganese.

54. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52 wherein said inflammatory lung disease is a hyper-reactive airway disease.

55. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52 wherein said inflammatory lung disease is asthma.

56. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52 wherein said compound is of Formula I or II and M is manganese.

57. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52 wherein said compound is of Formula I or III.

58. (Previously Presented) The method according to

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claim 57 wherein said compound is of Formula I and M is manganese.

59. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 52 wherein each R is independently methyl, ethyl or isopropyl.